

Claims

1. A method for broadcasting system information changes in a mobile telecommunications system, the system comprising a network of a plurality of cells and at least one user equipment device, the method comprising, in the network:

5 sending a first message indicating notification of a system information change and sending a repeat of the notification of a system information change.

2. A method according to claim 1 further comprising, when the notification of a system information change indicates that the system information change is to be implemented by a receiving device at a deferred time, sending the repeat of the notification of a system information change at a time relative to the deferred time.

10 15 3. A method according to claim 2 wherein the repeat of the notification of a system information change excludes an indication that the system information change is to be implemented by a receiving device at a deferred time.

4. A method according to claim 2 wherein the time is equal or less than 50 seconds from the deferred time.

20 5. A method according to claim 2 wherein the time is equal or less than 10 seconds from the deferred time.

6. A method according to claim 2 wherein the time is equal or less than 1 second from the deferred time.

7. A method according to claim 2 wherein the time is equal or less than 100 milliseconds from the deferred time.

8. A method according to claim 2 wherein the time is equal or less than 10 milliseconds 5 from the deferred time.

9. A method according to claim 2 wherein the time is equal or less than 5 hours from the deferred time.

10 10. A method according to claim 2 wherein the repeat of the notification of a system information change is sent at a time that precedes the deferred time.

11. A method according to claim 1 further comprising sending a plurality of repeats of the notification of a system information change.

15 12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the repeats of the notification of a system information change are sent at regular intervals.

20 13. A method according to claim 1 wherein repeat of the notification of a system information change is sent in a SYSTEM INFORMATION CHANGE INDICATION message transmitted on a broadcast control channel.

25 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein the repeat of the notification of a system information change is sent in an Information Element "BCCH modification info" contained in a SYSTEM INFORMATION CHANGE INDICATION message.

15. Apparatus for broadcasting system information changes in a mobile telecommunications system, the system comprising a network of a plurality of cells and at least one user equipment device, the apparatus in the network being arranged, in use, to implement the method of any of claims 1 to 14.

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16. A computer program comprising program code for performing the steps of any of claims 1 to 14.

17. A computer program product comprising program code stored on a computer readable medium for performing the method of any of claims 1 to 14.